



Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book

By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski



Download



Read Online



Get Print Book

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski

Starting with Giles' research into the various monsters and demons Buffy and the gang have encountered, this book then delves into the folklore that inspired the show's bad guys - their mythology, science, cultural, literary and historical origins. "The Monster Book" looks at how vampires are created on the show. There are interviews with the series creator, Joss Whedon, as well as the writers, make-up and costume artists, stunt men and actors. It explores the mythology surrounding vampires and other ghouls, in other forms of popular culture. Meet the vampires and other Sunnydale hellmouth creatures, safely, in this monster book.



[Download Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book ...pdf](#)

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book

By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegoski

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegoski

Starting with Giles' research into the various monsters and demons Buffy and the gang have encountered, this book then delves into the folklore that inspired the show's bad guys - their mythology, science, cultural, literary and historical origins. "The Monster Book" looks at how vampires are created on the show. There are interviews with the series creator, Joss Whedon, as well as the writers, make-up and costume artists, stunt men and actors. It explores the mythology surrounding vampires and other ghouls, in other forms of popular culture. Meet the vampires and other Sunnydale hellmouth creatures, safely, in this monster book.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegoski **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1190225 in Books
- Published on: 2000-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .97" h x 7.05" w x 9.06" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 384 pages

 [Download Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book* By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski

Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Fans of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* watch the show for a number of reasons, one of which is certainly the various creatures that show up every week. Golden, the author of many other *Buffy* books, and his coauthors have compiled a guide to the monsters that have appeared on the show, from menacing demons, hellhounds, and the most prominent of the show's many vampires to friendly regulars who happen to be supernatural, such as the tortured vampire Angel (who now has his own show) and werewolf Oz. What makes the book unique is that it includes, in addition to interviews with the creator of the show and many of the writers, the history of demons, vampires, ghosts, and others in folklore, literature, television, movies, and pop culture. Fans will enjoy the details and behind-the-scenes info, while those looking to get into the series will find this a handy guide. *Kristine Huntley*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

About the Author

Christopher Golden is the award-winning, bestselling author of such novels as *Wildwood Road*, *The Boys Are Back in Town*, *Of Saints and Shadows*, and the *Body of Evidence* thriller series. He has cowritten a number of novels and comic books set in the worlds of the television series *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Angel*. There are more than eight million copies of his books in print. He lives in Massachusetts with his family.

Originally a comics writer, Tom Sniegowski grew a large fan base with his work on titles including Jeff Smith's bestselling *BONE*, Mike Mignola's *HELLBOY*, and the currently wildly popular *GOON* series.

His YA book series *THE FALLEN* for S&S was turned into a series of TV movies that have aired to strong ratings on the ABC Family Network. *SLEEPER CODE AND SLEEPER AGENDA*, a YA two-part story for Razorbill/Penguin, was an ALA *Top Ten* Quick Pick in 2006.

Tom lives in Stoughton, Massachusetts with his wife and their dog, Mulder.

Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Introduction

The Mythology

Buffy the Vampire Slayer debuted on the WB television network on March 10, 1997. As captivatingly played by Sarah Michelle Gellar, Buffy Summers is a young woman who is not at all thrilled that she has been chosen by "The Powers That Be" to receive special abilities and become a warrior against the forces of darkness.

With its balance of humor and drama -- and perhaps most important, the way it used monsters as metaphor for the real social and emotional problems faced by teens -- the series struck a nerve and became an instant hit for the burgeoning network. By the beginning of its fourth season in the fall of 1999, it had spun off a second series revolving around Angel, the charismatic "good" vampire who had become Buffy's one true love.

Monsters are not merely metaphor, however. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* has brought horror, the supernatural, and all their trappings back into popular culture with an enthusiasm unmatched in recent memory. Vampires, werewolves, zombies, witches, ghosts, demons, and so many more...they're all on *Buffy*. Consequently, they're all in *here*.

The Monster Book catalogs every major supernatural creature to have crawled across the TV screen in the series' first four seasons. It explores the *Buffy* mythology, revealing heretofore unknown information about the nature of vampires, demons, and other monsters on the series. In these pages, you'll find interviews with the writers and producers of the show, as well as its creator, **Joss Whedon**, in which they discuss the monsters on the series, the mythology, and the influences and inspirations that are always with them when working on the show.

But *The Monster Book* is more than that. In addition to all the material on the universe of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, this volume includes an exhaustively researched history of monsters in folklore and popular culture, providing an enormous reference text, a tale of the way frightening myths have developed into entertainment, and the evolution of monsters in the consciousness of Western civilization that contributed to the creation of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

So, what do you need to know?

At Hemery High School in Los Angeles, popular sixteen-year-old **Buffy Summers** discovered that she had been mystically chosen to fight the forces of darkness. The **Council of Watchers** -- an international group based in London that has trained and guided Slayers for centuries -- sent a Watcher named **Merrick** to aid her. After training her, he was killed. During a battle against vampires at Hemery, she was forced to burn down the gymnasium, and was subsequently expelled.

Her parents, **Hank** and **Joyce Summers**, then divorced, and the Slayer moved with her mother to **Sunnydale**, California, about two hours away on the southern California seacoast. Though she had hoped to abandon the responsibilities of the **Chosen One**, Buffy soon discovered that her relocation to Sunnydale had been no accident of fate. Rather, the Powers That Be had somehow influenced her life and that of her mother so that they would settle there.

Sunnydale is located on a **Hellmouth**, a place where the barrier that separates Earth from the multitude of demon dimensions is worn thin. Another Watcher, **Rupert Giles**, was sent to continue her training and guidance. Along with Giles and her closest friends -- **Willow Rosenberg** and **Xander Harris** -- Buffy has continued the battle against vampires, demons, and other monsters through high school and into college. She wishes for a normal life, but Buffy takes her duties as the Slayer very seriously.

Shortly after her arrival in Sunnydale, Buffy met a vampire named **Angel**, unique in that he was -- as far as we know -- the only vampire in the world to also have a human soul (see Vampires: Angel). After he had made a name for himself as Angelus, the cruelest vampire in existence, he was cursed with the return of his soul, which allowed him to feel the guilt of all that he had done. By the time Buffy met him, Angel was seeking redemption for the horrors he once perpetrated.

Their relationship was filled with tribulation. When they made love -- Buffy's first time -- a new part of the curse was set in motion and Angel became a murdering, savage monster again. The curse was cast a second time, and his human soul returned. Despite their love for each other, it became clear that their relationship could not work. Angel was immortal and would not age. Buffy could not marry or have children with Angel and would grow old, whereas he would stay ever young. He eventually left Sunnydale for Los Angeles (and his own series, *Angel*).

Buffy experienced other tragedies as well. During her sophomore year she was attacked by the vampire known as the *Master*, who drained some of her blood and left her to drown. She died, but Xander used CPR to revive her. That brief death activated a second Slayer named *Kendra*, who later came to Sunnydale, only to be murdered herself by the vampire *Drusilla*. In Kendra's wake came *Faith*, a Slayer who became Buffy's friend, only to switch sides and ally herself with the evil mayor of Sunnydale (see Faith and the Human Monster).

The Council fired Giles as Buffy's Watcher during her senior year, and replaced him with *Wesley Wyndam-Pryce*. At the end of her senior year, just before the chaos that would erupt at her graduation, Buffy told Wesley she would no longer take orders from the Council. She quit. Presently, as a student at the University of California at Sunnydale, she unofficially continues with the duties of the Slayer, to fight the forces of darkness wherever they arise.

As noted, monsters frequently are metaphors on Buffy, most often representing some of life's unpleasant truths. It is a story of mythic proportions, about a hero and her journey of self-discovery. But it is also the story of one American teenager, with all the hopes and fears that implies.

"The show is designed to...work on the mythic structure of a hero's journey. Just to reframe that as the growth of an adolescent girl," Joss Whedon told National Public Radio. "The things she has to go through -- losing her virginity, dying and coming back to life -- are meant to be mythic, and yet they're meant to be extremely personal."

As such, there is a great deal more to Buffy's story. (See *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Watcher's Guide*, volumes 1 and 2.) But *The Monster Book* is, of course, about the monsters.

Joss Whedon and his staff love monsters, but their interest goes deeper than that, particularly Whedon's.

"As a child, I was afraid of a lot of stuff. I've always been attracted to horror," he told Michael Silverberg of NPR. "There is an element of being a child within it that I can't get away from. Grown-up horror is different. That's something I'm just learning about as I gradually and all too slowly *become* a grown-up. There's something about the way a child experiences pure horror -- the innocence and yet the almost unseemly attraction children have to that -- that is, to me, the most primal and interesting. Where there's horror, I tend to find youth and growth.

"I think there's a lot of people out there who say we must not have horror in any form, we must not say scary things to children because it will make them evil and disturbed....That offends me deeply, because the world is a scary and horrifying place, and everyone's going to get old and die, if they're that lucky. To set children up to think that everything is sunshine and roses is doing them a great disservice. Children need horror because there are things they don't understand. It helps them to codify it if it is mythologized, if it's put into the context of a story, whether the story has a happy ending or not. If it scares them and shows them a little bit of the dark side of the world that is there and always will be, it's helping them out when they have to face it as adults."

The Influences

Without a doubt, Joss Whedon has his own very unique frame of reference. Everyone does, and yet those frames of reference, those influences and inspirations, seem to have more power in the minds of creative individuals.

When it came to working on *Buffy* -- both his script for the 1992 film version and the TV series he has shepherded from Day One -- Whedon was able to draw on his own frame of reference to create a singular vision. Though inspired by films, comic books, books, myths, and television, Whedon crafted something wholly original with *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

In order to get a peek into the creator's mind and the minds of the writers working on the show day by day, we spoke with them about their "monster memories," the pop-culture images and stories that have stayed with them over the years.

Whedon fondly recalls director George A. Romero's *Living Dead* trilogy, also noting that "there are influences on the show like *The Lost Boys*, the remake of *The Blob*, and *Night of the Comet*." But he makes it clear that the monsters on the series are not based on any one template.

"In terms of the monsters, there is no one absolute." For instance, he notes that "we refer to Ted [from the episode of the same name] as *The Stepfather-Terminator-Collector*," revealing only three of the films that contributed to the frame of reference for a single character.

When explaining an idea or atmosphere to his staff, he often makes movie references. But the frame of reference is not made up entirely of science fiction and horror. "Sometimes it's like, 'Watch *Dracula*, watch *Day of the Dead*, watch *Places in the Heart*,'" he explains.

Interestingly, Whedon has also found inspiration in a more recent motion picture release. "For me," he says, "all movies should be *The Matrix*. *The Matrix* is the beginning and end of all films."

David Greenwalt, the executive producer of *Angel* and consulting producer of *Buffy*, who has written many episodes for both series, also recalls the impact certain films have made on him.

"The movie that was the most life-changing for me was Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*," Greenwalt says. "I went to see a movie by the guy who made that charming *North by Northwest* the year before, and had the living bejesus scared out of me. I realized that films could touch you so deeply and scare you on such a deep level."

Until he began to work with Joss Whedon on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, Greenwalt notes, he was not "a gigantic horror genre or comic-book fan. I didn't realize the power of myth -- and how demons and myth can collide to create powerful metaphors -- until I learned the ways of the high-school-as-hell metaphor from Joss."

Just as Joss Whedon creates monsters to reflect real-world concerns, Greenwalt reinforces the notion that on this series, the supernatural is not nearly as important as the all-too-real.

"I generally don't just think, 'Ooh, what's scary,' but 'What's your deepest fear?' The first episode I ever wrote was 'Teacher's Pet.' This is a deep fear of mine: that the beautiful woman you love is actually a gigantic bug who wants to eat your head. So I think the metaphor there is fairly obvious. In 'Nightmares,' which Joss and I wrote together, what was frightening to me was someone you love -- like a parental figure -- telling you something terrible about yourself, which you believe in your heart of hearts is true, though it isn't really true at all. There's the scene where Buffy's father says, 'Your mother and I split up because of you, it's all your fault.'"

Writer and supervising producer **Marti Noxon** has her own disturbing movie memories.

"One of the first things I remember getting terrified about was *The Exorcist*, and I didn't even see the movie. I was too young," she recalls. "But I remember my mother going out on dates and stuff -- she was single at

that time -- and I would stand at the door as she left and say 'Don't see *The Exorcist*!' I was so afraid of just the idea that she would see it and get really scared. I was afraid of the movie and the ideas in the movie, and I was afraid that I would get possessed."

The movies weren't the only source of anxiety for Noxon, however.

"*Planet of the Apes* was on television. I had a TV in my room and I was a total insomniac. I stayed up watching TV, and I caught either the movie or the TV show. I was really little, and for months I thought there were apes in the house.

"The macabre played a huge part in my mythology and childhood. I had a lot of rituals and games that I'd play to keep the monsters away. My family situation was pretty rough. My dad left when I was eight, and there were a lot of problems in my family and I felt really alone in the world. Trying to explain things was really important to me, but I couldn't put a name to my dread, this feeling of being afraid all the time. So monsters became a really big thing. They were my way of saying 'I'm scared.'"

As an adult, Noxon brought all those concepts and lessons to her work on television. Many of her pop-culture inspirations and influences have stayed with her as well. "I love *The Twilight Zone* and *The Outer Limits* in reruns," she says, then adds the movies "*Futureworld*, *Westworld*, *Logan's Run*. The one that scared the crap out of me was *Soylent Green*."

Writer and executive story editor **Douglas Petrie** has come at *Buffy* from another angle: he shares Joss Whedon's passion for comic books.

"Growing up, I was an enormous fan of Marvel Comics. In the seventies, that was everything I lived for," Petrie recalls fondly. "*Spider-Man* and *Fantastic Four* were huge. When John Byrne and Chris Claremont took over *X-Men*, I was just addicted to it. Everything that Marvel Comics did, from 1975 to Frank Miller's run on *Daredevil*, I absorbed completely and that's become a huge part of my vocabulary.

"Anything Frank Miller has done has crept so far into what we do here. For inspiration for Faith, I read [Miller's graphic novel] *Elektra Lives Again* about a hundred times. In a different, teen, punkier context, Faith is so much like Elektra.

"I loved Gene Colan's art. *Tomb of Dracula* was interesting because it genuinely scared me. That was the comic you'd read on a rainy Sunday. It was actually creepy and dark, and it seemed so grown-up.

"It was tough for me to follow *Dr. Strange* a little, in that his powers were so broad and never really clearly defined. I loved the character, I loved his cool New York City apartment. But like Joss is always saying, 'Iron Man, I get it. A guy with a bad heart who fights evil in an iron suit.' Dr. Strange was always so much more amorphous than that, but I did love it."

Co-producer and writer **Jane Espenson** reveals that she was "drawn to *Buffy* because of the comedy. I started out in sitcoms. However, I recently wrote *Texas Chainsaw Massacre 5*, because they wanted to have a *Buffy* kind of feel to it, and I wrote it, as much as I could, as a comedy. I think what makes *Buffy* special, what makes it work, is the perfect balance between the two. If you concentrate too much on the horror, you're missing something."

As a teen, she notes, Espenson was not very interested in horror films. "But I read the original novels of *Dracula* and *Frankenstein*. I enjoyed the way they made the monsters real; you could get inside their heads. I liked the idea that the bad guys were as well-motivated as the good guys."

Writer/producer **David Fury**, who grew up on Long Island in New York, recalls, "There were two shows opposite each other on Saturday nights when I was a kid, *Creature Feature* and *Chiller Theatre*. This was before VCRs of course. They were great old B-movies, sometimes C, very rarely A. Some of my favorite memories were watching those. I was very into the classic Universal monster movies. Including *Creature from the Black Lagoon*, which led into my very first *Buffy* episode, 'Go Fish.'"

"I didn't get to read a lot. I saw the occasional *Tales from the Crypt* comic book. When I was younger, horror was such a visual, visceral thing, it didn't occur to me that I could read and get scared quite as well as I could watching little brain monsters or something crawling around."

Little brain monsters haven't shown up on *Buffy* yet, but anything is possible, as evidenced by the menagerie of creatures that have already appeared on the series. Although all of the major monster archetypes have been touched on to some degree or other -- vampires, werewolves, mummies, zombies, Frankenstein's monster, the Creature from the Black Lagoon, invisible people, ghosts, bogeymen, demons -- they have all been explored in new ways by the inventive writers behind this series. Demons and vampires in particular have been redefined for the twenty-first century by Joss Whedon.

So, what specifically will you find herein? Well, monsters of course. But the definition of the word *monster* is a pliable one (something we'll address in more depth in our final chapter, Faith and the Human Monster). For the most part, we have determined a monster to be anything that is more or less than human, with powers or abilities usually of supernatural origin. Though a large majority of the "monsters" on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* are evil, they certainly cannot all be categorized that way. Willow Rosenberg, for instance, is a witch. In truth, with this widest of definitions, Buffy herself could be considered a monster. So we narrowed our parameters a bit more than that.

In the following chapters, you will find examinations of the major categories of monsters from the series -- demons, vampires, magic users, primals, ghosts, the walking dead, bogeymen, invisible people -- with entries detailing the introduction, activities, and current status of every significant individual monster that has appeared in the first four seasons of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. (All right, three and three-quarters. We're already past deadline, so we might miss a few from the last episodes of the fourth season.)

Some monsters were left out of the book because they were simply too insignificant to include. Vampire henchman #27, for instance, didn't make the cut. On the other hand, **the Bezoar**, from season two's "Bad Eggs," didn't make it in because there was simply no logical way to categorize them. They were not demons, but rather some sort of prehuman race, more a previously unknown animal than anything else. For the most part, though, you'll find them all right here.

Through original interviews with Joss Whedon and many members of the series' writing staff, we'll cover most of the major influences on the series, in the writers' own words.

Believe it or not, that's only half the story. For the other half of each chapter is an in-depth folklore and pop-culture history of each variety of monster. Monsters are fascinating, true, but equally interesting is the history behind each one. Why do we fear bogeymen? Where did belief in witchcraft originate? Each chapter features an extensive background on the monster and archetypes in question, following them through myth and fairy tales right on up to books, comic books, TV, and movies. For research, reference, or simple curiosity, we have created a comprehensive chronicle of the monsters on *Buffy*, and all of the centuries of storytelling that laid the foundations for one of the most popular TV series today.

You might expect a book about the monsters on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* to start with vampires. But let's not forget, the vampires of Joss Whedon's creation are demons first and foremost. So that's where we'll start.

With Demons...

Copyright © 2000 by Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eulalia Perry:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. The huge benefits you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want truly feel happy read one with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. The particular Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Dale Eich:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short time to read it because this all time you only find publication that need more time to be go through. Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book can be your answer since it can be read by an individual who have those short spare time problems.

Maria Simmons:

It is possible to spend your free time to see this book this e-book. This Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book is simple bringing you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not have much space to bring the printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save typically the book in your smart phone. And so there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Theresa Kuykendall:

Don't be worry should you be afraid that this book may filled the space in your house, you could have it in e-book means, more simple and reachable. This specific Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book can give you a lot of pals because by you considering this one book you have thing that they don't and make an individual more like an interesting person. This kind of book can be one of a step for you to get success. This reserve offer you information that might be your friend doesn't realize, by knowing more than additional make you to be great individuals. So , why hesitate? Let me have Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book.

**Download and Read Online Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster
Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E.
Sniegowski #C1R84XGO5UB**

Read Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski for online ebook

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski books to read online.

Online Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski ebook PDF download

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski Doc

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski Mobipocket

Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Monster Book By Christopher Golden, Stephen R. Bissette, Thomas E. Sniegowski EPub